

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to the Applicant's representatives during the personal interview on March 9, 2005. The Office Action of February 25, 2005 has been received and contents carefully reviewed.

By this Amendment, Applicant amends the Specification and claim 1. No new matter is added to the Specification. Accordingly, claims 1-3 and 5-8 are currently pending in the present application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 5-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶2; rejected claims 1-2, 5, 7-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Moren et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,142,304); rejected claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moren et al. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

With respect to the rejection of claims 1-3 and 5-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶2, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is now believed to moot in view of the amendments, and that claims 1-3 and 5-8 are full compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶2.

Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "...an upper plate extending from an upper side of said first side wall and having a slit-shaped groove adjacent to an edge of either said first side wall or said second side wall for retaining the lamp wire, the slit-shaped groove substantially parallel to the edge of said first and second side walls..." None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and claims 2, 3 and 5-8, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

Applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner deems that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number (202): 496-7500. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

Application No.: 09/778,748
Amendment dated May 25, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated February 25, 2005

Docket No.: 8733.395.00-US

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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Respectfully submitted,

By Penny Caudle *Penny Caudle*
log-no-46,607
George Ballas

Registration No.: 52,587
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 496-7500
Attorney for Applicant